

MINUTES OF THE
MARICOPA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
TRANSPORTATION REVIEW COMMITTEE

September 21, 1999

Maricopa Association of Governments Office
302 North First Avenue, Suite 200, Saguaro Room
Phoenix, Arizona

MEMBERS ATTENDING

Gary Brown, Tempe, Chairman	*Goodyear: Doug Sanders
*Wickenburg: Fred Carpenter, Vice-Chair	Litchfield Park: Mike Cartsonis
ADOT: Victor Mendez	Maricopa County: Mike Sabatini for
*Avondale: William Bates	Tom Buick
*Buckeye: Joe Blanton	Mesa: Jeff Martin
Chandler: Patrice Kraus for Bryan Patterson	*Peoria: David Moody
*Fountain Hills: Randy Harrel	Phoenix: Tom Callow
Gilbert: Tami Ryall	RPTA: Ken Driggs
Glendale: Jim Book	Scottsdale: Steve Hogan
	*Surprise: Ellis Perl

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS ATTENDING

*Regional Bicycle Task Force: Patrick McDermott, Chandler	*Pedestrian Working Group: Steve Hancock, Mesa for Mike Branham, Surprise
*Street Committee: Gary Thomas, Gilbert	*Telecommunication Working Group: Debbie Kohn, Avondale
ITS Committee: Steve Hogan	

* Members neither present nor represented by proxy.

OTHERS PRESENT

Chuck Eaton, ADOT	Sarath Joshua, MAG
Mary Lynn Tischer, ADOT	Dennis Smith, MAG
Eric Anderson, MAG	Stephen Tate, MAG
Cari Anderson, MAG	Chris Voigt, MAG
Terry Johnson, MAG	Paul Ward, MAG

1. Call to Order

Gary Brown, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

2. Approval of August 24, 1999 Meeting Minutes

Steve Hogan moved approval of minutes and Jeff Martin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Call to the Audience

No members of the audience wished to address the Committee.

4. Transportation Manager's Report

Terry Johnson briefed the Committee on upcoming topics, including South Mountain and median cable barriers. No questions were received.

5. Approval of Consent Agenda

Jeff Martin moved and Steve Hogan seconded approval of the consent agenda, which passed unanimously.

6. Requests for Projects for MAG Federal and Regional Funds for Inclusion in the FY 2001-2005 MAG Transportation Improvement Program. (Consent Agenda Item)

No comments were received.

7. Report on the MAG Freeway Program

Eric Anderson provided an update on the MAG Freeway Program. He addressed the issues relating to Grant Anticipation Notes (GANS) and Right of Way acquisition funding. Discussions between MAG and ADOT regarding GANS are ongoing. Legal documents required for the GANS were still being drafted. He also noted that the Record of Decision was received for the Red Mountain Environmental Impact Statement. No questions were received.

8. Update on Transportation Funding Estimate

Eric Anderson provided an overview of transportation funding estimate for the FY 2005 ADOT program. He noted that the Resource Allocation Advisory Committee (RAAC) had been reviewing the issue and a proposal was made that of the total of \$531 million available for the state, half would go to MAG and the Pima Association of Governments (PAG) (37% and 13% respectively) while the other half would go to other areas of the state. The position stated by MAG was that we need to get to our full share for the entire five-year program as quickly as possible. Discussions at RAAC are ongoing.

Gary Brown asked if the Transportation Review Committee would have an opportunity to comment to the RAAC. Mr. Anderson noted that the issue would be discussed at the Management Committee and the MAG Executive Committee, while the Transportation Review Committee had an opportunity for input at this meeting. Mr. Driggs noted that there was a history of the region receiving less money than it should, but resolving the issue will not be easy as areas outside the metro region may not agree to a payback to address past shortages for metro regions.

9. Funding for Median Cable Barriers on the MAG Freeway System

Sarath Joshua gave a brief presentation on the cable barrier issue. He noted that MAG and ADOT had met, on September 7, 1999, as requested by this Committee at its last meeting to discuss the use of Hazard Elimination and Safety (HES) funds. ADOT has made an application to the FHWA seeking approval to use HES funding for installing median cable barriers on all existing freeways in the region. The Federal Highway Administration has indicated that HES funding could be approved for all existing freeways pending the receipt of additional supporting data from ADOT.

Jeff Martin complimented staff on gaining an agreement that is equitable. He motioned to recommend to fund median cable barriers for new freeways (including new freeways under construction) with MAG freeway funds, and to fund median cable barriers on existing freeways from ADOT Federal HES funds. Also, recommend amending the 2000-2004 MAG Transportation Improvement Program to include the following median cable barrier projects in FY 2000 with ADOT HES funding: (1) Agua Fria from Northern Avenue to I-17 (\$2.75 million), (2) I-10 from Dysart Road to Stake (I-17) & 7th Street to I-17 (\$2.79 million), (3) Pima from Shea Blvd. To Salt River (\$1.81 million), (4) Price from Loop 202 to Guadalupe Road (\$0.76 million), (5) Red Mountain from Loop 101 to Country Club Road (\$0.67 million), (6) Squaw Peak from Glendale Avenue to Bell Road (\$1.34 million), (7) Superstition from Signal Butte Road to Mountain View Road (\$1.00 million).

Tom Callow requested to add to the motion to recommend to encourage ADOT to provide for the maximum landscaping feasible. Jeff Martin agreed to the amendment. Steve Hogan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

10. Advance Acquisition for a Parcel on South Mountain Parkway

Steve Tate briefed the Committee on the issue regarding a planned subdivision in the alignment of the South Mountain Parkway in the vicinity of 59th Avenue and Broadway Road. The estimated cost for the Right of Way was noted as \$1.2 million. The Committee heard the issue in August and had requested that it be taken to the Right Of Way Stakeholders. The Right of Way Stakeholders met and provided direction to staff to develop a motion for consideration by the Transportation Review Committee.

The Committee discussed the requested action. Chuck Eaton noted that it was not ADOT practice to purchase Right-of-Way on unfunded corridors. Bill Hayden noted that ADOT had some discussions with the Gila River Indian Community regarding the alignment. Chuck Eaton noted it was important to express the motion as subject to being taken to the ADOT Right Of Way Advisory Panel. Gary Brown moved to approve the recommendation with revised wording to send to the ADOT Right of Way Advisory Panel, as follows:

1. Subject to review by the ADOT Right-of-Way Advisory Panel, recommend that ADOT be authorized to make advance right-of-way acquisitions in controlled access corridors, to complete freeway connections that are part of the MAG Freeway/Expressway Plan, where a design concept has been completed and where development is imminent and where the land to be acquired is a continuation of a freeway section included in the MAG Life Cycle Program.

2. Encourage local jurisdictions to work with developers to secure dedication of right-of-way for Proposition 300 corridors.
3. Authorize formation of a South Mountain Agency Stakeholders Group to review the approved alignment and develop an implementation plan for the South Mountain alignment between 19th Avenue and the Papago Freeway, in order that an environmental assessment can be completed in time to start final design on central portions of this corridor no later than February 2002.

Mike Sabatini asked if ADOT would be able to purchase Right of Way. Terry Johnson responded that they would after approval by the MAG Management Committee, MAG Regional Council and the ADOT Right of Way Advisory Panel. The motion was approved by all parties except for Phil Hubbard and Chuck Eaton, who both abstained, and Jim Book, who opposed the motion.

11. Discussion of Assumptions for the Development of the MAG Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP)

Terry Johnson provided a overview of the topic, noting the intent was to develop the policy basis for the LRTP. The acceleration of the freeway program to 2007 provides an opportunity to update the LRTP.

Mr. Johnson noted that no schedule had been set to update the LRTP, in response to a question from Steve Hogan, but noted that the Governor's Transportation Vision 21 Task Force was not anticipated to make final recommendations until December 2000. Jeff Martin supported conducting an update. Chuck Eaton also supported an update, noting that it would help ADOT in developing its own Long Range Plan. Jeff Martin suggested that an update be provided at the next Regional Council Transportation Committee noting that the Transportation Review Committee is very interested and expressed a sense of urgency. Steve Hogan suggested that information from a review of plans and processes in other urban areas be used for this update.

12. Air Quality Evaluation for CMAQ Request

Cari Anderson provided a status report on the air quality evaluation of projects proposed for CMAQ funding. She noted that a composite index for CO, VOC and PM-10 was developed for this analysis. All assessments were done for the year 2005 for consistency.

Tom Callow asked how emission reductions for bike and pedestrian projects were handled. Ms. Anderson replied that VMT reductions were assumed and used with estimates of CO, VOC and PM-10 emission factors (expressed in units of grams of pollutant emitted per VMT) for the year 2005 to generate estimates of emission reductions. Mr. Callow asked if a quantitative estimate of a reduction was needed. Ms. Anderson replied that qualitative assessments were being done where quantitative assessments were not feasible, e.g. for public education programs.

Steve Hogan asked is a new and separate score was required for these new analyses or if the CMAQ air quality evaluation results could be incorporated into the already existing air quality score. Ms. Anderson stated that the emission reductions calculated were not already included in the existing air quality scores. Mr. Hogan indicated that the CMAQ evaluation process would be confused and overloaded with multiple air quality scores unless the air quality information were combined into one score.

Mike Sabatini asked if the methodology had been applied or reviewed by other agencies. Ms. Anderson replied that the methodology was currently in draft form, and that MAG was working with the FHWA and the Environmental Protection Agency to finalize it. The methodology was designed to be consistent with existing air quality plans, but is also expected to evolve over time. She advised that the Air Quality Technical Advisory Committee would assess the methodology. Mr. Sabatini stated that he wanted the Transportation Review Committee next year to see the air quality evaluations in advance so that they could do quality control.

13. Next Meeting Dates

The meeting adjourned at 11:50 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 2, 1999 at 9:00 a.m. in the Saguaro Room, MAG Offices.